

# MASSACHUSETTS FIRES IN 1996

## 28,064 Fires - Down 13% From 1995

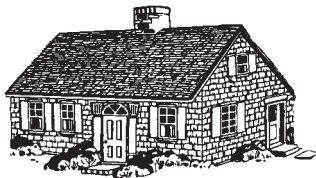
80 Civilian Deaths - 1 Fire Service Death

705 Civilian Injuries

1,100 Fire Service Injuries

\$139 Million in Property Damage

4,296 Reported Arsons



### Structure Fires

11,611 Fires - Down 1%

60 Civilian Deaths

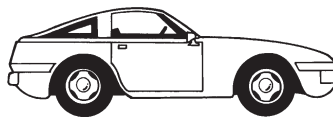
1 Fire Service Death

596 Civilian Injuries

1,005 Fire Service Injuries

\$116 Million

1,168 Arsons Reported



### Motor Vehicle Fires

6,980 Fires - Up 6%

16 Civilian Deaths

46 Civilian Injuries

45 Fire Service Injuries

\$20 Million in Property Damage

1,082 Arsons Reported



### Other Fires

9,473 Fires - Down 32%

4 Civilian Deaths

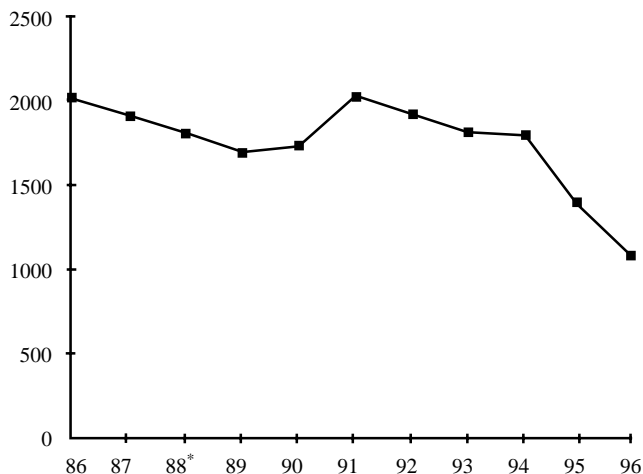
63 Civilian injuries

50 Fire Service Injuries

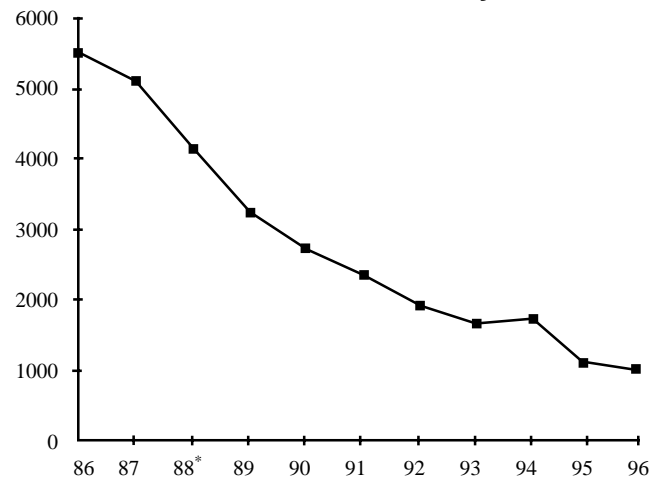
\$2.6 Million

2,046 Arsons Reported

### Structure Arson by Year



### Motor Vehicle Arson by Year



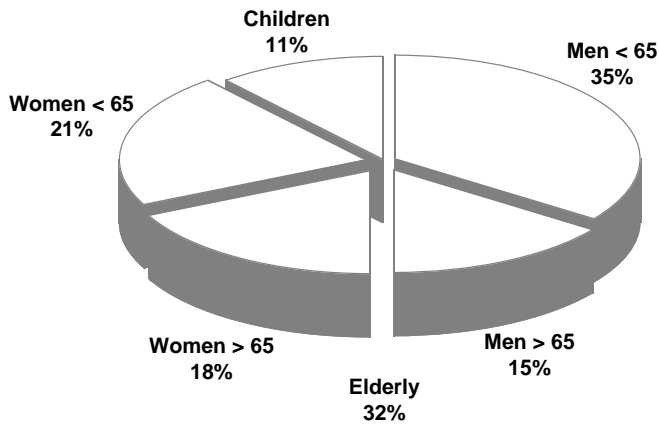
Structure arson fell 15% and motor vehicle arson fell 1% from 1995 to 1996. Since 1986, motor vehicle arson has fallen 80%. Since the Burned Motor Vehicle Reporting Law took effect in 1987, owners of burned vehicles must personally file a report at the fire station before they can collect on their fire insurance. Vehicle arson began dropping at that time.

For statistical purposes, a fire is considered arson when the ignition factor is listed as incendiary or suspicious.

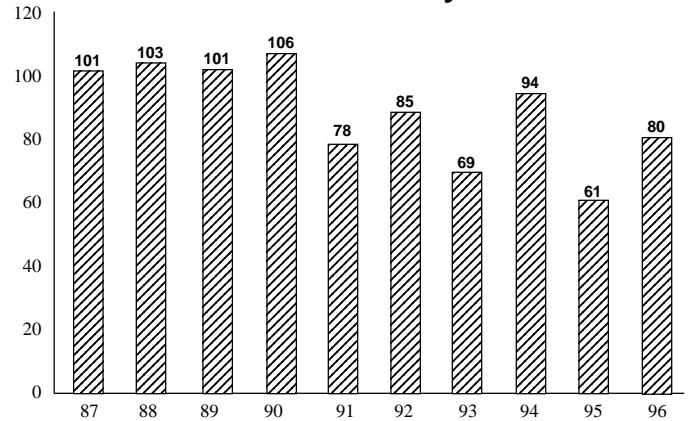
\* Due to computer problems, no data is available for 1988. An estimate was made by averaging data from 1987 and 1989.

# MASSACHUSETTS FIRE DEATHS IN 1996

**Civilian Fire Deaths**

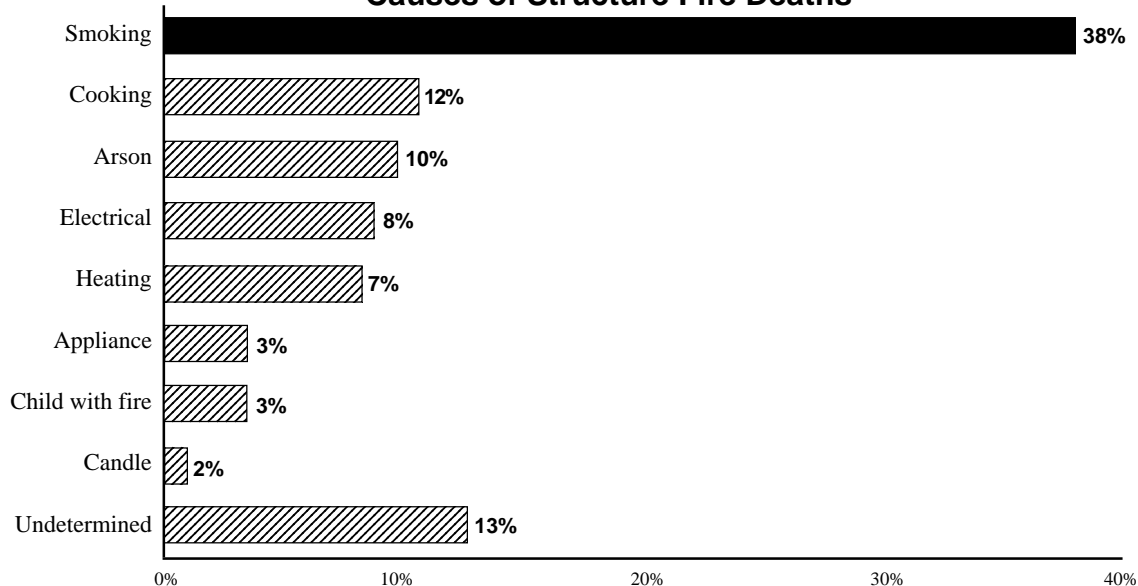


**Fire Deaths by Year**



- One firefighter and 80 civilians - 40 men, 31 women and 9 children - died from fires in 1996 .
- Fire deaths rose 33% from an all time record low of 60 in 1995 to 80 in 1996.
- Fire deaths in 1996 were still lower than the 93 reported in 1994.
- 75% of the civilian fire victims died in the so-called *safety* of their homes.
- Over half of the fire deaths in one- and two-family homes occurred in homes with no working smoke detectors. Either no detectors were installed or the detectors did not operate.
- Careless smoking caused 38% of the structure fire deaths.

**Causes of Structure Fire Deaths**



**Test your smoke detector and plan your escape!**  
*Fire doesn't wait!*

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